

FBIS**DAILY REPORT
CONTENTS***Latin America*

Vol VI No 007

10 January 1985

INTER-AMERICAN AFFAIRS

Contadora Ministers Meet in Panama City	A	1
Depart for Managua	A	1
ALADI Analyzes Possibilities of Cooperation	A	1

ARGENTINA

LA PRENSA's Rouco Discloses Military Document [5 Jan]	B	1
Briefs: Popular Union President Dies	B	3

PARAGUAY

Editorial on Cocaine-Processing Chemicals [EL DIARIO 9 Jan]	H	1
--	---	---

MEXICO

De la Madrid Discusses National Tasks for 1985	M	1
Socialist International's Sule on Aid to Nicaragua	M	3

PANAMA

Official on Purpose of Joint Military Exercises	N	1
January 1964 Incident Marked in Panama City	N	1
Briefs: Budget Balance, Deficit; Chief Justice Sworn In	N	1

CENTRAL AMERICA

BELIZE

Esquivel, Ministers Hold Press Conference	P	1
Esquivel, Wagner Attend Works Ministry Conference	P	1

COSTA RICA

Guard Post Attacked in Incursion From Nicaragua	P	1
Nicaraguan Asylum Seeker Case Submitted to OAS	P	2
PUSC Deputies Seek Removal of Envoy to Nicaragua	P	3

EL SALVADOR

'Heavy Fighting' Reported in San Vicente	P	4
C-47 Plane Used	P	4
60 Army Casualties [Venceremos]	P	5

GUATEMALA

Mejia Victores, Andrade Meet With Shlaudeman	P 6
Briefs: New Agriculture Minister;	P 6
Deputy Foreign Relations Minister	

HONDURAS

Government Expels 10 Members of Misura	P 6
Paz Barnica Reports on Security Council Meeting	P 7

NICARAGUA

Foreign Ministry Refutes Costa Rican Charges	P 8
'Mercenaries' Said To Kidnap, Release U.S. Nun	P 9
Further Reportage on Delegations to Inauguration	P 9
Ambassador To Represent U.S.	P 9
Guyanese, British Arrivals	P 9
WPC's Chandra, Cuba's Bravo	P 10
Ortega Greet Visitors	P 10
GDR Delegation [cross-reference]	P 10
National Constituent Assembly Begins Work	P 10
Officers Elected	P 10
Nunez Address	P 11
Nunez Discusses Honduran, U.S. Policies	P 13
Views Assembly's Functions	P 14
Cruz on Manzanillo Talks, Continued Opposition [ACAN]	P 14

CUBA

Machado Ventura Receives Visiting GDR Official	Q 1
Montane Meets With World Peace Council Chairman	Q 1
Bilateral Exchange Protocol Signed With France	Q 1
Congolese Delegation Pays Official Visit	Q 1
Jorge Lezcano Meets Delegation	Q 1
Sergio del Valle Attends WHO Meeting in Geneva	Q 1
Flavio Bravo Arrives in Managua for Ceremonies	Q 2
'Our America' Remembers Panamanian Demonstration	Q 2
U.S.-Soviet Talks Continue in Geneva	Q 3
Delegates to Youth Festival To Be Chosen in Feb	Q 3

CARIBBEAN

JAMAICA

JLP Officials Demand Immediate Elections	S 1
Currency Loses Ground Against U.S. Dollar	S 1

TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

Chambers Accepts Invitation To Visit Barbados	S 2
---	-----

OTHER COUNTRIES

BRAZIL

Joint Venezuelan Drug Committee Holds Meeting	V 1
---	-----

CHILE

Navy Chief Favors Extending State of Siege	V 1
--	-----

GUYANA

Prime Minister Denounces Press Reports of Coup	V 1
--	-----

CONTADORA MINISTERS MEET IN PANAMA CITY

PA081622 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1525 GMT 8 Jan 85

[Text] The foreign ministers of the Contadora Group met here today to continue their peacekeeping efforts for Central America. The meeting, the first in 4 months, is being attended by Bernardo Sepulveda, foreign secretary of Mexico; Augusto Ramirez Ocampo, foreign minister of Colombia; Isidro Morales Paul, foreign minister of Venezuela; and Fernando Cardoze, foreign minister of Panama.

It has been reported officially that the ministers will discuss the observations made by Costa Rica, Honduras, and El Salvador to the Contadora Document for Peace and Cooperation in Central America. The meeting will end tomorrow, and the foreign ministers will go to Managua to attend the inauguration of Nicaraguan President-elect Daniel Ortega.

Depart for Managua

PA092120 Paris AFP in Spanish 2042 GMT 9 Jan 85

[Text] Panama City, 9 Jan (AFP) -- Official sources have reported that the Panamanian, Mexican, Venezuelan, and Colombian foreign ministers left Panama this afternoon for Managua, where they will attend President Daniel Ortega's inauguration to be held tomorrow, Thursday.

Panamanian Foreign Minister Fernando Cardoze said that the four foreign ministers are traveling as heads of the delegations of their respective countries and "not as the Contadora Group." However, Cardoze added that the occasion could be appropriate for the four foreign ministers to contact their Central American colleagues and inform them of the results of the latest Contadora meeting, which ended in Panama City today following 2 days of talks.

ALADI ANALYZES POSSIBILITIES OF COOPERATION

PY092020 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0340 GMT 9 Jan 85

[Text] Montevideo, 8 Jan (EFE) -- A special working team today began analyzing the possibility of strengthening monetary and financial cooperation within ALADI. The team is made up of delegates of the Argentine, Brazilian, Colombian, Chilean, Mexican, Uruguayan, and Venezuelan central banks, who met at the ALADI headquarters in Montevideo. The team is analyzing the possibility of obtaining foreign resources to promote financial cooperation among the 11 ALADI members.

The meeting was opened by Assistant Secretary General Franklin Buitron Aguilar, who reported on the last talks held by the secretariat and the international financial agencies, particularly the IDB and the World Bank. Buitron Aguilar also reported on the document containing the results of these talks and of the meetings held by the central banks of ALADI members.

The ALADI Council of Ministers recently reiterated that members are very interested in strengthening the organization and in obtaining funds from sources outside the region.

LA PRENSA'S ROUCO DISCLOSES MILITARY DOCUMENT

PY080042 Buenos Aires LA PRENSA in Spanish 5 Jan 85 pp 1, 3

[Column by J. Iglesias Rouco: "Flights and Lights of Imagination"]

[Excerpt] The most encouraging sign in the military sector comes from the new awareness in some military circles of the phenomenon of the "dirty war" and its pernicious effects on the country's political and institutional affairs. For the first time in a long time, we are hearing the voices of conscientious military men, and these do not sound like the voice of "social democracy," or even of the socialism of the Center of Military Officers for Democracy, or of the obstinacy of those who conducted the "process." These military men seem to understand the problem of subversion very well. Furthermore, the voices of these military men concur with those of the most reasonable members of the government and the Radical Civic Union [UCR]. With apparent limitations, namely, that there is not a great deal of objectivity in either the military or the UCR, this concurrence offers more improved prospects for understanding than those that previously existed.

A few days ago a group of military chiefs and officers distributed to all units a document titled "The Argentine Armed Forces, Their Thoughts in the Face of Reality." After analyzing the political and military conditions under which the antisubversive war had to be fought in Argentina, the document states:

1. 6) The military chiefs and high-ranking officers of that time did not have the necessary strategic vision, the foresight, the intelligence, the necessary political prudence, and the sense of historical responsibility to make the use of force conditional on the prior passage by Congress of legislation to legally support the new and unpredictable procedures that that unprecedented war would call for. In the face of a disguised civil war or of the destruction of the country by anarchy, they preferred, out of irresponsibility or for unknown reasons, to resort to making their own "decisions." Consequently, they ordered the carrying out of military operations that were undeniably "illegal" in light of the existing laws, regardless of the legitimacy of their objective of preserving "the common good of the nation," which at that historic moment was threatened by Marxist-Leninist subversion. Thus they placed on the shoulders of their subordinates the burden of these decisions and the risk of the consequences of following such orders, and brought to the Armed Forces the shameful suspicion of dishonesty and genocidal intentions. Today, we are the passive witnesses and victims of these ill-advised decisions.

1. 7) After toppling the constitutional government, the National Reorganization Process did nothing to resolve the contradictions between what "it was doing" and what "it could legally do." On the contrary, the members of the successive military juntas and the military chiefs preferred to water down their responsibility with anonymity, the complicity of silence, and the lack of control to ensure concealment. Blinded by their overbearance and consequent thoughtlessness, they expected the impunity of a "prolonged process" in which time and oblivion would heal the wounds. Their behavior, however, was not an isolated case in the reality of Argentine society. They acted in accordance with the moral pattern of modern society, and of our country in particular.

1. 7.1) Effectiveness as an end in itself ("Why lock them in jail now if they will be released under the next amnesty and continue to kill?").

1. 7.2) The horror of conducting a public execution after a summarial trial (a mix of pacifism and the belief that "this is none of your business").

1. 7.3) The collective conscience was lulled by hedonism (pretense and cynicism, pretending ignorance of events, which certainly could have been imagined or supposed, or giving tacit approval: "There must be a reason"). In fact, while the officers on active duty (middle and lower ranking as well as noncommissioned officers) and the subversives were engaged in a war, the rest of the Argentines were enjoying tours and shopping trips abroad, the passions of soccer championships, the frivolous consumerism of imported goods, and the exciting speculation with dollars and interest rates promoted by the financial fatherland.

1. 8) Today, 10 years after the Marxist-Leninists started the war, the Argentine Armed Forces are trapped in the dialectics of the contradictions that the enemy set up for them and is now cleverly using to destroy them. After the short-lived illusion of "a military triumph over subversion," in which they had us irresponsibly and senselessly believing, the military is facing the courts, thus reenacting a new Nuremberg. The defense forces of the nation, particularly of the Argentine Army, are being insulted, disparaged, pawed through, and spat upon.

1. 9) Partial conclusion

1. 9.1) The Argentine Armed Forces carried out military operations against the Marxist-Leninist organizations when the country was immersed in a national emergency and within the boundaries of a "just war." Therefore, the actions of their members are not bound to legal norms, except for those who, because of their political and military position and rank, should be punished for their irresponsibility, negligence, and incompetence in the performance of their duties as far as the fighting of subversion was concerned; or those who in the carrying out of military missions took advantage of their authority to commit crimes for their personal benefit, lost control of their passions, or performed any act not directly related to or justified by the military operation.

1. 9.2) The permanent cadres of the Armed Forces share the historical responsibility of those who at the proper time participated in the struggle, which is continuing; they are, the chiefs, officers, noncommissioned officers, security agents, police personnel, intelligence agents, and soldiers. They share responsibility for this struggle, which is just, lofty, honest, serious, and responsible.

1. 9.3) War is conceived of as the continuation of politics by other means; that is to say, it is another instrument at the service of politics, more so in the case of a revolutionary Marxist-Leninist war unleashed by a firm political will. In this war the apparently most insignificant facts and even the acts of the smallest factions or the lowest-ranking leaders have political content and significance. Therefore, any interpretation trying to differentiate a phase of "military triumph or victory over subversion" from a phase of "political defeat of the Argentine Armed Forces" is a completely false one.

The result of a "political conflict" such as war, which is a confrontation between intelligent people, is and will always be of a political nature. War is only a tool to impose by force your will on the enemy. Therefore, it does not and cannot have a purpose in itself.

1. 9.6) Those Argentine people who do not support or share the Marxist-Leninist ideology, along with their Armed Forces, have been "temporarily" defeated by the subversion sustained by that political ideology, their tacit allies (direct or indirect, permanent or circumstantial), the fronts, related groups, and organizations (of any nature) that respond to their interests or to the ideologies imposed by the infiltrated elements.

1. 9.5) The essence and existence of the Argentine nation, its spiritual and material values are contrary to and irreconcilable with the objectives and content advocated by Marxist-Leninist subversion whatever its form or expression.

1. 9.6) The Argentine people who do not support or share the Marxist-Leninist ideology and the Argentine Armed Forces which have not surrendered their weapons have neither declared peace nor halted their actions against the subversive aggression in any of its forms or versions. They continue to oppose the objectives advocated by that ideology by adjusting themselves to current historic reality.

1. 9.7) The Marxist-Leninist subversion is a reality that has not been eradicated merely by the installation of a constitutional government. It continues to operate, for the time being, through nonmilitary means. It has chosen as its current battlefield the cultural, psychological, political, and legal field, and the infiltration of some areas in the national and provincial governments, and so forth. Subversion has not renounced the armed struggle as a valid instrument to achieve power. The apparent absence of violent actions indicates that there are actually better ways and methods, perhaps more effective, to fulfill its tactical objectives by taking advantage of the opportunities offered by the confused political situation in the country.

1. 9.8) It would not be a bold declaration to say that nowadays Marxist-Leninist subversion is successfully fulfilling the revolutionary phase expressed by Lenin in his theories (Bern, 27 February 1915): "Delay operations until the moral disintegration of the enemy will make it possible and easy to deliver the final blow."

BRIEFS

POPULAR UNION PRESIDENT DIES -- Buenos Aires, 3 Jan (TELAM) -- Popular Union Party President Carlos Raul Insua died today. Insua was the first national Social Action director and a close assistant of Eva Duarte de Peron. [Excerpt] [Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 2054 GMT 3 Jan 85 PY]

EDITORIAL ON COCAINE-PROCESSING CHEMICALS

PY091740 Asuncion EL DIARIO in Spanish 9 Jan 85 p 15

[Editorial: "Confiscated Drugs"]

[Text] Drug experts are aware that the three types of chemical products that were confiscated by Paraguayan customs officials can, in addition to other uses, also be used to manufacture lethal cocaine. This incident has caused unusual paranoid reactions, and several imaginary stories about the alleged "Paraguayan participation" in the Latin American drug traffic ring have begun to circulate. And of course, for those critics of our country who live abroad, this incident has been ideal for criticizing Paraguay. Neither Colombia, which sent pure cocaine through the diplomatic pouch that came from none other than Government House, nor Bolivia, which is unable to eradicate coca farming and the mini-empires of drug traffickers in the Beni jungles, have been subjected to as many attacks and criticism as Paraguay, which has proven its innocence by the expeditious customs proceeding, by the confiscation of the material, and finally by the court procedure on the chemical components which crossed the Atlantic Ocean and the immense Brazilian territory, only to be confiscated at the Paraguayan border by Paraguayan customs officials.

But there are some unanswered questions. If these chemical products, their manufacture, and their transport are tied to criminal purposes, why not investigate their origin, their manufacturers, and those responsible for exporting them, since in Paraguay there are no coca farms or drug factories? Why shouldn't these investigations lead to subjecting those involved in drug trafficking, which has been halted by Paraguayan authorities in keeping with Paraguayan law, to the decisions of international human rights forums? [as published]

But if these products are not necessarily tied to criminal purposes but were merely introduced illegally into the country, and if they can legally be labeled as smuggled products, as it is likely to happen, they will become national property, and a valuable one at that.

Why destroy them? Why not use them for inoffensive purposes as suggested by chemists in the pharmaceutical industry or in college laboratories? Lastly, why not sell them to highly industrialized countries which can use them for legal purposes, or even to those countries which want to avoid these products being used in the manufacturing of cocaine, so that they may be destroyed, while Paraguay may be able to invest the proceeds of this sale in development programs?

As these questions go unanswered, our belief that some people want to involve Paraguay in this dirty business seems justified. Why should we be forced to destroy these chemical products as if we were making an act of collective repentance? Repentance, regret...why? These drugs come from faraway countries with great technological and scientific capacity. Someone tried to smuggle these products through Paraguay but they were confiscated and extensive publicity was released on their confiscation. We did not hide the merchandise in some basement; on the contrary, we granted it extensive press coverage. Why should we have a guilty conscience?

However, since this shipment may be used in the manufacturing of cocaine, the consumption of which is already undermining U.S. society, it is normal for the United States to be "concerned" over the possibility that Paraguay is somehow involved. But it must be noted that this shipment was in transit through Paraguay and that its destination is not known. The smuggling and the U.S. "concern" may be relieved by merely enforcing Paraguayan laws, something we shall not renounce to satisfy any existing prejudice against our country's moral attitude.

DE LA MADRID DISCUSSES NATIONAL TASKS FOR 1985

FL081657 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 0300 GMT 7 Jan 85

[Text] Mexico City, 6 Jan (NOTIMEX) -- President Miguel de la Madrid said tonight in his New Year's message that his government's main problem continues to be the economic one and, of course, its social effects. This is why it is essential to stay alert and renew efforts.

Addressing the Mexican people over television and radio, De la Madrid said inflation is high and the growth rate is inadequate. He said there is the possibility of a relapse if we do not act decisively and plan ahead. However, although the past few years have been difficult, the results of everyone's struggle, both the people and government, constitute important advances in fighting the crisis and those advances are the foundation of continued struggle, he said.

The president said: Beyond economic circumstances, Mexicans should be aware and reasonably satisfied with having confronted the crisis in its most serious moments and achieved the solidification and firming up of the country institutions along with the political, social, and economic system we have created.

Above all, he said: We have to continue to be strong and decisive. The country's government cannot be a passive and fearful government because the people demand action. Mexicans cannot become discouraged in the face of difficulties. If we let things take their own course, sooner or later they will hit us with greater force.

De la Madrid said he could summarize achievements in the following way:

Democracy was maintained through permanent dialogue between the government and the people.

The municipal reform was extended and improved.

State governments were strengthened.

Respect for freedom of speech and criticism remained intact.

There were important advances in the administration's moral renovation.

The government institutions' budget and administrative controls were reinforced.

The judicial power supports were extended and a program is under way to make the police forces more professional and to improve their moral standards.

The country's education systems continues to be extended.

A new national health system was established.

The national housing program is being implemented and the agrarian reform continues to advance.

He said: In the economic area, we have overcome the most threatening aspects of the crisis, reversing the negative trends which rose dramatically in 1982 and 1983. Inflation fell to half its highest rate reached in April of 1983. Production growth in 1984 was twice the anticipated level, reaching more than two points, compared to the 5 point drop in 1983 and stagnation in 1982.

However, the president said, in no way are we trying to lower the inflation rate drastically by paralyzing the economy because that would be counterproductive, nor do we want to stimulate dramatic growth because that would send inflation to greater heights.

He said the effects of mistakes are observed sooner now than in earlier times. Therefore, he said, in 1985 the government intends to continue reducing the inflation rate and encourage a moderate but firm recovery.

He said it would continue to pursue the policy of promoting employment. Action will be taken to reverse the tendency of deterioration of people's income and lifestyle.

De la Madrid promised to support business so it can strengthen and expand production and employment sources and improve efficiency and productivity in different areas of the economy.

Likewise, he said the government would increase efforts to implement austere and efficient policies in public spending. He announced that programs and institutions will be revised to continue eliminating waste and to focus scarce resources on priority areas. In the public income area, the government will concentrate on improved revenue management to fight tax evasion and fiscal fraud. Likewise, in the public sector, prices, tariffs, and adjustments will continue to be made and kept at the present levels. These will be set according to costs and the essential needs of public finances.

In his message, President De la Madrid acknowledged that the increases in electric rates and petroleum prices were difficult but necessary. He stressed that reality cannot be avoided because avoiding reality is what has brought us the problems we are now facing.

He said that in 1985, Mexico must renew its efforts in exports and tourism, because those activities bring foreign currency for the general development of the country. In his opinion, exports and tourism will be priority items in which all Mexicans in one way or another will participate.

Supporting this, De la Madrid announced that a realistic exchange rate policy with gradual adjustments would be maintained and that the country would follow a program of revising Mexican price levels vis-a-vis other countries. Later, he said that in 1985 the public sector will appeal to international finance markets to obtain a net financing of no more than \$1 billion (the lowest level in the past 13 years).

He said that in the next few weeks, his government will announce a set of measures to decentralize federal public management. This will be done to get government activities closer to citizens so Mexico City's offices will not be congested. As a consequence, state and municipal governments will be strengthened and a more balanced geographic development will occur.

In political matters, he said 1985 will be a year of very important elections in this country. After encouraging citizens to exercise their rights in a responsible way and political parties to improve the quality of campaigning, De la Madrid emphatically warned: We are not going to tolerate violence in the election process.

In 1985, when the 175th anniversary of the country's independence and the 75th anniversary of the revolution will be commemorated, he reiterated that we should strengthen our national consciousness and reaffirm our strong will to continue building an independent, free, just, and worthy country.

Before ending his speech and after thanking the Mexican people for their support, De la Madrid firmly said we should not hesitate to carry out our respective duties because we know the country's future is the undeniable responsibility of each one of us.

Finally, he said we should be optimistic because we still have a country with all kinds of possibilities, with abundant natural resources, and with people who having been raised in struggle and adversity. Every day Mexico becomes stronger and more respected by the international community.

SOCIALIST INTERNATIONAL'S SULE ON AID TO NICARAGUA

FLO91130 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 0035 GMT 9 Jan 85

[Excerpt] Mexico City, 8 Jan (NOTIMEX) -- Socialist International Vice President Anselmo Sule said here today the member nations of this organization have announced that they will begin an economic aid program to Nicaragua near the end of January.

Before departing for Nicaragua, where he will attend President-elect Commander Daniel Ortega Saavedra's inauguration on Thursday, Sule said the program seeks to lessen the deterioration of Nicaragua's economic situation. He said the Sandinist government was able to consolidate the revolution in spite of external aggression, and that the economic aid program from socialist parties, although it will not eliminate all of Nicaragua's problems, will enable Nicaragua to reduce them.

OFFICIAL ON PURPOSE OF JOINT MILITARY EXERCISE

PA091458 Panama City Televisora Nacional in Spanish 0000 GMT 9 Jan 85

[Text] Panamanian Deputy Foreign Minister Jose Maria Cabrera reaffirmed that the joint U.S.-Panamanian military exercises are not geared against third countries.

[Begin Cabrera recording] The United States and Panama planned and will conduct military exercises according to existing agreements in the Torrijos-Carter treaties. Their sole purpose is to prepare the Armed Forces of both countries to defend the Panama Canal. The goal, objective, or end of these military exercises is not geared against third countries, but strictly toward the Panama Canal's defense. They seek to improve the preparedness of our Armed Forces and to ensure the growing participation of Panama in the defense and protection of the Panama Canal. [end recording]

JANUARY 1964 INCIDENT MARKED IN PANAMA CITY

PA092353 Panama City Circuito RPC Television in Spanish 1730 GMT 9 Jan 85

[Text] A series of activities took place in the capital city today to commemorate the 21st anniversary of the historic occurrence of 9 January. First of all, the flags were lowered to half mast at the Ascanio Arosemena Plaza by Marcela Chavez de Arosemena, mother of the 9 January 1964 martyr Ascanio Arosemena. After a religious service, the group marched from the Justo Arosemena Legislative Palace to the Amador cemetery, where those who were killed on that historical date, which was a milestone in the rescue of Panamanian sovereignty, were honored. Several speakers had the honor of highlighting the significant historical date.

The main speaker at the event was Government and Justice Minister Carlos de Sedas, who said the following:

[Begin recording] We have a commitment to the martyrs of 9 January that we cannot fail to fulfill. We cannot fail them. This basic commitment, independent of the difficulties that may emerge, is that the Torrijos-Carter treaties, and above all, the fixed dates established therein have to be fulfilled at all costs. For this we have to prepare conscientiously, and all that is done in this preparation must be valid in all of its aspects.

The worse failure that a struggling nation could suffer would be to fail to fulfill the main stipulations of an instrument such as the Torrijos-Carter treaties. It can be said that the main stipulation is the fixed date, the day when Panama takes over its canal, when it will manage its canal, and defend its canal. Therefore, we must all prevent the entertainment of hopes that the treaties will not be fulfilled in this very important and fundamental point, because this would not be forgiven by our consciences nor in the watchful gaze of the January martyrs, which makes them present in the country's affairs. [end recording]

BRIEFS

BUDGET BALANCE, DEFICIT -- Comptroller General Francisco Rodriguez has reported that the 1984 budget left a \$1.358-billion balance between revenue and expenditures despite a \$9.3-million reduction in revenue. The total deficit in the current budget is \$478 million. [Summary] [Panama City Televisora Nacional in Spanish 0000 GMT 5 Jan 85 PA]

CHIEF JUSTICE SWORN IN -- Marisol Reyes de Vasquez assumed office today as president of the Supreme Court of Justice of Panama, the first woman in Latin America to occupy such a high office. Mrs Vasquez will serve for a period of 2 years. [Summary] [Panama City LA REPUBLICA in Spanish 2 Jan 85 p 1 PA]

BELIZEESQUIVEL, MINISTERS HOLD PRESS CONFERENCE

FL100234 Belize City Domestic Service in English 0200 GMT 10 Jan 85

[Text] The prime minister, Mr Manuel Esquivel, this morning held a second press conference since he was elected to office about 3 weeks ago. Along with the prime minister were the minister of foreign affairs and economic development, Mr Dean Barrow; the minister of tourism, transport, education, and youth, Mr Derek Aikman; and the attorney general and minister of housing, Mr Hubert Elrington. The press conference was well attended by representatives of the local and international press. The prime minister said that at this time, there is no question of the development of our currency.

ESQUIVEL, WAGNER ATTEND WORKS MINISTRY CONFERENCE

FL091500 Belize City Domestic Service in English 1300 GMT 9 Jan 85

[Text] Prime Minister Mr Manuel Esquivel has said that the Ministry of Works has the largest budget of any ministry of government since it is responsible for the infrastructural development and maintenance. The prime minister was the guest speaker at the opening conference of senior officers of the Ministry of Works held yesterday in Belmopan. In his address, the prime minister, speaking in broad terms, referred to the government's policy with regard to support for public offices in carrying out of their duties.

The annual staff conference was also addressed by the Minister of Works Mr Charles Wagner. Mr Wagner, in addressing the conference, called for a reduction of wastage and increased output for the ministry. He said that in carrying out its projects, the Ministry of Works is not responsible to any political party, but rather is responsible to the people of Belize. He said that this principle would be one of the cornerstones of the policy of the Ministry of Works under the new government.

The Deputy Minister of Works Mr Sam Rhaburn, the Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Works Mr Eustace Usher, and the chief engineer Mr Edgar Puga, were also present at the Ministry of Works conference.

COSTA RICAGUARD POST ATTACKED IN INCURSION FROM NICARAGUA

PA091349 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1205 GMT 9 Jan 85

[Text] The General Staff held an emergency meeting last night at the Public Security Ministry in response to the report of a new violation of Costa Rican territory. Complete documentation on this development will be ready this morning.

The incursion into Costa Rican territory was 12 miles inland. The General Staff held an emergency meeting from 2000 last night until 0200 this morning to review the report furnished by the Civil Guard unit posted at Laguna de Aguadulce. The [word indistinct] reported that at approximately 1800 the violation of Costa Rican territory began, initially by sea and later by land, followed by an attack on the Civil Guard post.

Public Security Minister Benjamin Piza and Deputy Minister Johnny Campos, as well as John Taylor, military attache at the U.S. Embassy in San Jose, attended the emergency meeting of the General Staff. Costa Rican Vice President Armando Arauz, who is coordinator of the Security Council, was also present. He stated that at no time was a rupture of diplomatic relations with Nicaragua considered because it was not confirmed that the violation was carried out by Sandinists. He said that the presence of the U.S. military attache was a friendly gesture to see how the U.S. Government can help.

NICARAGUAN ASYLUM SEEKER CASE SUBMITTED TO OAS

PA092215 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 0100 GMT 9 Jan 85

[Text] Costa Rica has asked the OAS to send a special commission to investigate the incidents that occurred at the Costa Rican Embassy in Managua on the night of 24 December when Jose Manuel Urbina Lara, a refugee, was forced to leave the embassy and was wounded in the leg in the process. The commission's report will be used to demand that international commitments be complied with, Fernando Zumbado, Costa Rican ambassador to the OAS, stated.

He reiterated that Costa Rica has vigorously demanded that the Nicaraguan Government deliver the exile to our embassy. He told the OAS Permanent Council of the government's decision to limit relations with Nicaragua only to what is absolutely necessary as long as this case is not resolved to Costa Rica's satisfaction. Zumbado added that the foreign ministers of the Contadora Group have been duly advised on this matter. The foreign ministers are meeting in Panama City to review the observations made on the Contadora Document by Honduras, El Salvador, and Costa Rica.

Zumbado clearly told the OAS Permanent Council that Costa Rica is determined to move forward in the defense of its rights and inter-American rights with the weapons provided by the law. My government is aware of the fact that it would be a great relief for our America and not a [word indistinct] for Nicaragua if your government permits that [words indistinct] healthiest practices of peaceful coexistence, Zumbado said.

He also explained the efforts repeatedly made by Costa Rica to persuade Nicaragua to return the man.

Costa Rica's honor and dignity will be defended carefully and firmly everywhere, because it is our people's will, the ambassador to the OAS remarked. He recalled that this is what Costa Ricans did in 1948 and in 1955 when our territory was violated by foreign armed forces. He added that the people's will now is stronger because they have moral strength and the law on their side. In addition, they feel stronger because of the neutrality proclamation.

The ambassador said: Costa Rica bases its democracy on reason and therefore we will apply every procedure, effort, and regulation provided by the Latin American juridical system so that the rights of Costa Rica will be respected in the same manner we respect the rights of other states.

He warned that those who are trying to confuse our caution with weakness are mistaken. He recalled that President Luis Alberto Monge said that Costa Rica is like a beehive. If the bees are left alone to work happily they will, but if an intruder puts a clumsy hand on the hive, they become enraged and defend it just like our people defend our territory. He said that everybody is aware of the delicate situation in Central America, which has even become a threat to world peace.

He explained that our country has contributed positively in the search for agreements in the area. He asked: What better contribution to peace can a country that [words indistinct] make than putting aside any means that make aggression possible? He recalled that, externally, our country has no instruments of aggression and that, internally, it lacks any instruments of oppression, so it has no other way to maintain its peaceful coexistence than by resorting to dialogue and pluralism.

He noted that our security is based solely on the principles of international law and the instruments created over the years to guarantee collective security and peace. He emphasized that the Costa Rican people view the right to asylum as one of their most sacred rights.

For this reason, Zumbado added, the Costa Rican state must make every effort to respect it. We have never yielded to any kind of pressure to give up this right, even when our own security has been at stake. In addition, Zumbado noted the historical significance of the right to asylum and recalled that Gerardo Barrios, a Salvadoran criminal, sought asylum in Costa Rica 120 years ago. He was granted protection, despite the fact that no international conventions existed at the time.

It has also been reported that Costa Rica's request for an OAS investigative commission to be sent to Nicaragua will be decided upon in the next few hours. Such a commission would represent the implementation of international treaties. Government sources have said that this request to the OAS is one of the measures to be applied in an effort to find a solution through the inter-American juridical instruments to the conflict with Nicaragua that resulted from the abduction of refugee Urbina Lara. The OAS might communicate to the Costa Rican representative in Washington tomorrow, or Thursday at the latest, the organization's decision regarding the request presented by Zumbado today.

PUSC DEPUTIES SEEK REMOVAL OF ENVOY TO NICARAGUA

PA091321 San Jose Radio Impacto in Spanish 1830 GMT 8 Jan 85

["Part" of communique issued by Social Christian Unity Party deputies in San Jose on 8 January -- read by Milton Cruz]

[Text] The Social Christian Unity Party [PUSC] deputies view with concern the government's disinterest and silence regarding the reiterated denunciations made by fellow Deputy Jimmy Zuniga David on the actions of the Costa Rican ambassador to Nicaragua.

These denunciations were presented in October 1984 at a press conference convoked by our faction. During this press conference, in addition to Deputy Zuniga, other deputies expressed their concern over the ambassador's actions. Reliable reports have been frequently received on disputes over economic matters at the Costa Rican Embassy and consulate in Nicaragua. These disputes were outrageous. We have also learned of the ambassador's close personal relationship with high-ranking officers in the Sandinist People's Army. As a result of this relationship, our diplomatic representative has lost the trustworthiness that he enjoyed with fellow Costa Ricans and foreigners who requested his support for political reasons.

It has been said that no refugees were received at the Costa Rican Embassy in Managua and that immediately after these refugees made their first contact with the ambassador, he reported them to the Nicaraguan authorities. As a result, the refugees were detained. Despite these serious charges, the Monge government failed to order an investigation. Quite the contrary, Foreign Minister Gutierrez fully supported Ambassador Fernandez Morales.

With the 24 December events, national dignity and sovereignty were undermined in two very important aspects: The immunity and inviolability of the Costa Rican Embassy and consulate were violated, and the right of asylum, so deeply rooted in national political and juridical institutions, was broken. Because of its opprobrious behavior toward international law, the Nicaraguan Government is to be held responsible for this violation. The Nicaraguan Government is also to be held responsible for the fate of young university student Jose Manuel Urbina Lara.

The ambassador's responsibility in these events should be questioned in Costa Rica. The behavior of the Costa Rican representative will weigh shamefully on the nation's conscience regarding Urbina Lara's fate.

The actions of Fernandez Morales are, at the least, extremely serious and contrary to international law. Further investigation may show these actions to be fraudulent, because leaving a person who is receiving protection alone in an office at the embassy shows a great degree of irresponsibility, not only regarding this person's personal safety, but also the safety and confidentiality of official documents. This is all the more serious if we consider that the person was practically at the mercy of the embassy's guard, a member of the Army which persecuted the person under diplomatic protection.

The behavior of the Costa Rican ambassador will have extremely serious consequences on the young student's fate, and Costa Rica would appear before the world as having disregarded a right that the country has so strongly defended. This apparent irresponsibility would appear to go as far as endangering the safety of the person allegedly receiving protection.

For these reasons, PUSC deputies vehemently demand that Fernandez Morales, Costa Rican ambassador to Nicaragua, be dismissed so that the Costa Rican state's trustworthiness in the application and enforcement of the right of asylum can be fully recovered.

[Signed] PUSC's parliamentary faction, San Jose, 8 January 1985

EL SALVADOR

'HEAVY FIGHTING' REPORTED IN SAN VICENTE

C-47 Plane Used

PA100208 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSKL in Spanish 1200 GMT 9 Jan 85

[By Raul Beltran]

[Excerpts] Here is a report for the listeners of YSKL's newscast: The situation in eastern San Vicente Department has returned to normal during the early morning hours today, especially in the zone known as Caserio Santa Anita, Canton Soledad, Cerro La Campana, and Cerro San Jacinto. Heavy fighting has been taking place in the area over the past 2 days between FMLN rebels and units of the 5th Infantry Brigade supported by artillery and the Air Force. According to initial military reports, the FMLN sustained at least 30 dead. The same reports supplied to YSKL this morning reveal that 17 soldiers died and 43 were wounded. In addition, a search has begun to locate 1 officer, 2 lieutenant cadets, and 10 soldiers who, according to initial reports, were taken prisoner by the leftists. Early this morning, 16 Huey UH-1H helicopters and 2 Fouga airplanes continued flying over the zone to locate rebel positions.

Military spokesmen in San Vicente said this morning that a C-47 airplane, equipped with three .50-caliber machine guns, was put into use for the first time on Monday night and Tuesday morning in Cerro La Campana and adjacent areas, after a report was received on the leftists rebels' attack on the Army positions on the hill.

U.S. Embassy officials in San Salvador yesterday confirmed that the Salvadoran Air Force has started to use a C-47 airplane which is equipped with machine guns. The crew of this plane was trained in the United States. The C-47 was one of the three airplanes promised to the Armed Forces to be modified and used in the struggle against the leftist rebels.

Our sources said that the airplane was put into use on Monday night in a remote area of San Vicente Department, 60 km east of the capital. An official said today that the C-47 airplane has been equipped with three .50-caliber machine guns and infrared equipment. It was used on Tuesday night in the San Vicente area.

The sources added that there are currently two teams of men trained to fly this type of aircraft who were trained in the United States. The airplane arrived in the past 2 weeks of 1984 and the Air Force has six more C-47 airplanes, but they have not been equipped with .50-caliber machine guns, which fire 500 rounds per minute.

The official, who preferred to remain unidentified, added that it was a political decision by the United States not to deliver the airplanes equipped with Minigun machine guns, which fire 5,000 rounds per minute. This type of airplane is used to attack large groups of guerrilla fighters, the diplomatic source added. The war cannot be won with this weapon, but it can help to improve the Army's position, the U.S. Embassy source concluded.

Yesterday afternoon, Armed Forces Chief of Staff General Adolfo Onecifero Blandon personally inspected the combat lines and positions; he was accompanied by Colonel Rene Emilio Ponce, chief of operations in San Vicente Department, according to the official reports issued today.

We have another report from the eastern sector of the country: Transportation is normal, despite the FMLN leftist guerrilla forces' calls and threats. This was confirmed today by spokesmen of the National Directorate of Land Transportation. Bus and private vehicle owners have been supported and protected by Army units on the main highways, including the Military Route, the Coastal Highway, and the Pan-American Highway. Traffic continues to move normally today for the second consecutive day, which indicates that drivers are disregarding the leftist forces' threats.

60 Army Casualties

PA100051 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0000 GMT 10 Jan 85

[Text] Radio Venceremos begins this cast by informing our people about new revolutionary victories in San Vicente Department by the Anastasio Aquino Paracentral Front. The enemy operation in San Vicente Department has been defeated. The FMLN inflicted 60 casualties on the puppet Army during clashes on La Campana Hill.

Attention, attention: Initial reports received from the Anastasio Aquino Paracentral Front, San Vicente Department, state that FMLN units have defeated another enemy operation by surrounding and annihilating Tehuacan Battalion troops of the 5th Infantry Brigade. The fighting has taken place on La Campana, Santa Anita, and Buena Vista Hills.

The initial reports state that we have inflicted 60 casualties on the puppet Army. Early reports state that 17 puppet Army soldiers have been killed in combat and 43 soldiers have been wounded. At lieutenant and two noncommissioned officers are included in the 60 casualties. We have also learned that in San Vicente Department our revolutionary units have dealt a strong blow to the operation launched by the enemy in this area. Our revolutionary units surrounded and annihilated troops of the Tehuacan Battalion of the 5th Infantry Brigade. Our early reports state that the dictatorship desperately tried to stop the defeat by sending many helicopters and A-37 Dragonfly planes into the area. This Air Force effort was useless in face of the audacity and aggressiveness of our fighters who have once again dealt a heard blow in San Vicente Department to that Army that defends the interests of the rich, to that Army directed and financed by U.S. imperialism.

Radio Venceremos is waiting for an official war bulletin on this new victory achieved in San Vicente Department by our army of workers. We repeat, we are waiting for an official war bulletin on the weapons recovered from the enemy and other details regarding this victory achieved on the Anastasio Aquino Paracentral Front. The year 1985 has begun with new victories for the working class.

GUATEMALA

MEJIA VICTORES, ANDRADE MEET WITH SHLAUDEMAN

PA092018 Guatemala City Cadena de Emisoras Unidas in Spanish 0050 GMT 9 Jan 85

[Text] Harry W. Shlaudeman, special U.S. envoy for Central America, arrived in Guatemala today and met with Head of State General Oscar Mejia Victores and Foreign Minister Fernando Andrade Diaz-Duran. As Foreign Minister Andrade Diaz-Duran had reported, there was no specific agenda for the U.S. diplomat's visit. However, Shlaudeman and Gen Mejia Victores exchanged views on the Central American situation during the meeting, the minister stated. Shlaudeman arrived in the Guatemalan capital behind schedule. He has been meeting with Gen Mejia Victores since 1600. Shlaudeman could leave Guatemala tomorrow. The U.S. Embassy is not commenting on the purpose of the visit since it considers it related to the problems in Central America.

BRIEFS

NEW AGRICULTURE MINISTER -- Ramon Zelada Carrillo, public relations secretary of the office of the head of state, announced today that Juan Humberto Mancur Donis has been appointed agriculture minister. Until now, Mancur Donis had been president of the National Institute of Agrarian Reform. [Summary] [Hamburg DPA in Spanish 0236 GMT 4 Jan 85 PA]

DEPUTY FOREIGN RELATIONS MINISTER -- This morning Ariel Rivera was appointed deputy minister of foreign relations. [Summary] [Guatemala City Radio-Television Guatemala in Spanish 0400 GMT 3 Jan 85 PA]

HONDURAS

GOVERNMENT EXPELS 10 MEMBERS OF MISURA

PA091444 Tegucigalpa Voz de Honduras Network in Spanish 1145 GMT 9 Jan 85

[Text] Honduran officials confirmed yesterday afternoon that more than 10 Indian leaders of the Miskitos, Sumus, and Ramas [Misura] insurgent group were expelled on the orders of the National Directorate of Population and Immigration Policy.

The Misura leaders had participated in a press conference held by their leader Steadman Fagoth, who made a veiled criticism of the government and defended ousted Armed Forces Commander General Gustavo Adolfo Alvarez Martinez. The position of the Nicaraguan rebel leader was described as disrespectful to national laws. For this reason, his arrest and subsequent expulsion from the country were ordered. The leaders of the Council of Elders and the Misura Political Commission were involved in this matter, and they were also forced to leave the country on Monday. Those expelled included Adan Artola, who was considered the spokesman for the Indian organization and the organizer of the press conference. The destination of those expelled yesterday by the Honduran authorities was unknown. However, it was said that they probably went to Costa Rica, where they have organizations supporting their anti-Sandinist struggle.

PAZ BARNICA REPORTS ON SECURITY COUNCIL MEETING

PA091822 Tegucigalpa Domestic Service in Spanish 1130 GMT 9 Jan 85

[Excerpts] The National Security Council met for several hours at the request of the president of the Republic to review matters of importance to our country. Foreign Secretary Edgardo Paz Barnica, spokesman for the council, will now give us some details on what was discussed at the meeting:

[Begin recording -- broadcast in progress] ...The president, the Security Council to discuss some of the latest priority issues, so to speak, which were exhaustively reviewed by the Security Council, President Suazo Cordova, the Armed Forces chief, the commanders of the various services, the chief of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, and Foreign Secretariat advisers Carlos Lopez Contreras and Jorge Ramon Hernandez Alcerro.

First of all, I would like to state that President Suazo reiterated his determination to hold free elections this year in accordance with the provisions of our Constitution.

Today we discussed, among other things, the Central American situation in light of the meeting the Contadora Group is currently holding to determine if the revised version of the Contadora Document for peace and security can be adopted. As you know, the Governments of Honduras, Costa Rica, and El Salvador submitted observations on this document here in Tegucigalpa during a meeting of foreign ministers held 19-20 October 1984. We feel that these observations substantially improve the Contadora Document, which has been admitted even by the members of the Contadora Group.

In this connection, Colombian Foreign Minister Augusto Ramirez Ocampo, who has been [words indistinct] for several months and is probably one of those closest to and most trusted by President Belisario Betancur, will arrive in Tegucigalpa on Friday for talks on the Contadora Group's peace efforts.

Another topic of discussion was the matter of the bilateral negotiations between Honduras and the United States. In accordance with a proposal submitted by the Honduran Government last year, a revision and evaluation of the economic cooperation and security aspects of these relations are required in order to strengthen our ties of cooperation and friendship with the United States on the basis of mutual respect. We must safeguard our national dignity and bear in mind, with regard to security, that the 1954 treaty is already out of tune with current circumstances, so we can invoke the international law principle of *rebus sic stantibus*, according to which an agreement can be abrogated or derogated if there has been a substantial change in the circumstances that prevailed at the time it went into effect.

In this regard, it was concluded that the talks at the level of the high-level commission and the subcommittees on economic and security affairs are proceeding [words indistinct] in the sense of achieving the aspirations of the democratic government of President Suazo Cordova. President Suazo Cordova and the Armed Forces stressed that they will never adopt an attitude harmful to the dignity, sovereignty, and independence of our nation. The senior Armed Forces officers reiterated their solidarity with and support of any decisions that may be adopted by the president as the freely elected president of the Honduran people. [end recording]

The deportation of anti-Sandinist leader Steadman Fagoth was not discussed as it was regarded as a fait accompli, but this type of sanction will be applied to any foreigner who violates the country's laws, the foreign secretary said.

[Begin Paz Barnica recording] (?This applies) to any foreigner who violates our country's laws. If groups from a given country or continent come here to promote activities representing acts of intervention in Honduras' private and sovereign affairs, we must enforce our laws. In this respect, President Suazo Cordova has issued precise and categorical instructions to enforce the laws with regard to any foreigner who comes here to intervene in Honduras' exclusive political, union, labor, and other affairs. [end recording]

NICARAGUA

FOREIGN MINISTRY REFUTES COSTA RICAN CHARGES

PA100108 Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 0010 GMT 10 Jan 85

[Communique issued by Foreign Ministry in Managua on 9 January]

[Text] In reference to reports from various press agencies about a Costa Rican Government communique on the alleged incursion by three patrol boats, presumably of the Nicaraguan Navy, in the area of Laguna de Aguadulce, north of Barra del Colorado, the Foreign Ministry reports the following:

The Nicaraguan Government categorically denies that this or any other incident has occurred or that there has been any violation of Costa Rican sovereignty. Moreover, there has been no deployment of patrol boats in the above-mentioned sector as charged. What is reported in that communique could well correspond to the movement of the mercenary groups operating in that zone. This would coincide with diverse reports that we have received in this regard.

This new denunciation of alleged incidents is reason for serious concern by the Nicaraguan Government. This denunciation and the incident that occurred over a Nicaraguan military service deserter who took refuge in the Costa Rican Embassy in Managua add up to too many coincidences in which unreal situations are magnified. They seem to be directed at clouding the Nicaraguan people's joy during these days when the first democratically elected president will take office in Nicaragua. These attitudes seem to be encouraged by foreign interests with the additional objective of hampering relations between Costa Rica and Nicaragua.

These unjustified denunciations also coincide with the efforts being undertaken by the U.S. Government to have the U.S. Congress renew aid to the mercenary forces who are in the service of that government. This leads one to conclude that those foreign interests are behind this sudden and unjustified anti-Nicaraguan campaign.

One's attention is also drawn to the fact that the Costa Rican Government has resorted to the OAS to present its denunciation in the case of the Nicaraguan deserter when bilateral mechanisms exist to deal with these situations. These mechanisms include the joint commission and the supervision and prevention commission created by the Nicaraguan and Costa Rican foreign ministers under the sponsorship of the Contadora Group.

In view of the current situation, the Nicaraguan Government issues a sincere call for moderation and dialogue so that foreign interests do not introduce elements of conflict between the two countries. Nicaragua believes that situations such as this one do not in any way contribute to the efforts for peace in the region and that, on the contrary, they only benefit the sectors that support war and bloodshed among the fraternal peoples of Central America.

Managua, 9 January 1985

[Signed] Foreign Ministry of free Nicaragua

'MERCENARIES' SAID TO KIDNAP, RELEASE U.S. NUN

PA091904 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1830 GMT 9 Jan 85

[Text] The Defense Ministry reported today that a U.S. nun of the Maryknoll Order was kidnapped on Tuesday by counterrevolutionaries in the vicinity of San Juan de Limay, Esteli Department. The nun, Nancy Donovan, was kidnapped along with eight Nicaraguans when the mercenaries ambushed two Construction Ministry vehicles, according to the report. Some civilians were murdered and several kidnapped in the counterrevolutionary attack. The nun has reportedly been released by the Somozist mercenaries, who are killing our defenseless people with financing from the United States.

FURTHER REPORAGE ON DELEGATIONS TO INAUGURATION

Ambassador To Represent U.S.

PA091959 Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 0000 GMT 9 Jan 85

[Text] Washington (ANN) -- Today the U.S. Department of State announced that U.S. Ambassador to Nicaragua Harry Bergold, Jr. will represent that country at the inauguration of President-elect Commander Daniel Ortega Saavedra. According to ANN, U.S. Department of Defense spokesman Alan Romberg made that announcement when the news agency asked whether his government would send a delegation or a message to the swearing-in ceremonies for Nicaragua's new president.

Local sources observed that the U.S. Department of State's announcement was in a different tone and referred to Commander Daniel Ortega Saavedra as Nicaragua's future president. On previous occasions, the United States had not referred to him such terms. Local political sources noted that the fact that the United States is officially referring to Commander Daniel Ortega as Nicaragua's president indicates that it is realizing the failure of its policy of sabotaging the Nicaraguan elections.

Guyanese, British Arrivals

PA091356 Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 0000 GMT 9 Jan 85

[Text] Guyanese Vice President Ranji Chandisingh and British Labor Party leader Neil Kinnock arrived in our country this afternoon. These officials will attend the inauguration of the Republic's president and vice president.

Deputy Foreign Minister Nora Astorga, Supreme Electoral Council President Mariano Fiallos Oyanguren, and Foreign Ministry officials were at the Augusto Cesar International Airport to welcome these officials. Delegations from Lebanon, Algeria, Zimbabwe, Tanzania, Sri Lanka, (?Vanuatu), Mexico, and India have also arrived in the country.

WPC's Chandra, Cuba's Bravo

PA092143 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1830 GMT 9 Jan 85

[Text] For the third consecutive day, delegations and personalities from all over the world, who have been invited to attend the inauguration of Nicaraguan President-elect Commander Daniel Ortega, continue to arrive in the country. Romesh Chandra, WPC chairman; Flavio Bravo, president of the National Assembly of the People's Government of Cuba; Hans-Jurgen Wischnewski, member of Socialist International who is representing Willy Brandt; and (Paul Reuter), Nicaragua's lawyer before the International Court of Justice in The Hague arrived this morning at the Augusto C. Sandino Airport in Managua. According to political and diplomatic sources accredited in Managua, former Honduran President General Oswaldo Lopez Arellano has also arrived in Managua bearing a message of peace from the Honduran Government and people.

Ortega Greets Visitors

PA092002 Managua Sistema Sandinista Television Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 9 Jan 85

[Text] Nicaraguan President-elect Commander of the Revolution Daniel Ortega Saavedra has met with members of several of the delegations invited to attend the presidential inauguration. He greeted Alexandrina Gainuse, member of the Central Committee of the Romanian Communist Party, during a ceremony at the Cesar Augusto Silva Convention Center and met with Antanas Barkauskas, deputy chairman of the USSR Presidium of the Supreme Soviet. Accompanied by Nicaraguan Foreign Minister Father Miguel D'Escoto, Commander Ortega also greeted the Argentine delegation headed by Argentine Vice President Victor Martinez. This morning Commander Ortega met with members of the Hungarian delegation, led by Imre Katona, member of Hungary's Presidential Council, and with Bulgarian delegates to the inauguration, led by Peko Takov, deputy chairman of the Romanian State Council. The Polish delegation, headed by Roman Malinowski, deputy chairman of the Polish Council of Ministers, also greeted Commander Ortega and held a fraternal chat.

GDR Delegation

For East Berlin media reportage of the visit to Nicaragua by a GDR delegation headed by Egon Krenz, Politburo member, SED Central Committee secretary, and deputy chairman of the Council of State to attend the presidential inauguration, see the GDR section of the 10 January Eastern Europe DAILY REPORT and subsequent issues.

NATIONAL CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY BEGINS WORK

Officers Elected

PA091902 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 1839 GMT 9 Jan 85

[Text] We repeat for benefit of our listeners that Commander of the Revolution Carlos Nunez Tellez has been elected president of the National Assembly. Commander Leticia Herrera has been elected first vice president and Dr Clemente Guido second vice president. Guido represents the Democratic Conservative Party.

The third vice president is Mauricio Diaz Davila, representative of the Popular Social Christian Party. In addition, Subcommander Rafael Solis, representative of the FSLN bloc, has been elected first secretary of the National Assembly.

Nunez Address

PA100235 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 1859 GMT 9 Jan 85

[Speech by Commander of the Revolution Carlos Nunez Tellez, president of the National Assembly, at the installation of the assembly in the 22 January Heroes and Martyrs Building in Managua -- live]

[Excerpts] A new phase begins today in the democratic deepening of the Nicaraguan revolutionary process. The National Assembly, which is the continuation of the State Council, has been installed to carry out important tasks stemming from the popular will that was directly expressed at the ballot boxes by the nation's various political, economic, union, social, and religious sectors. These sectors, moved by a deep patriotic spirit and with integrity, loyalty, and political awareness, have entrusted to seven political parties the task of drafting the first real Nicaraguan constitution. At the same time, these parties are tasked with perfecting the political and legal revolutionary power in Nicaragua, with the hope that this will be achieved on the basis of the firmest unity, an essential element in the design of the political system that will be established in Nicaragua during the next 6 years.

These are the sectors that went to the polls voluntarily and en masse to ratify the revolutionary process; to defend the bright future dreamed of by 50,000 dead Nicaraguans; to reiterate Nicaragua's independence and sovereignty; to pay tribute to the combatants and civilians who fell after the triumph; to elect the leaders and parties of their choice; to defeat the imperialist policy of sabotaging the electoral process; to show the international community their desire to continue to create a free and independent fatherland; to reject the undeclared war imposed by the northern neighbor; to make the ideals of Sandino, Carlos, and Rigoberto a reality; to continue to build this new society constructed and defended by all; in short, to create new political and moral values where the people will daily conduct themselves with resoluteness, compassion, courage, audacity, and responsibility and ardently defend the land where they were born and where they will live forever and ever.

However, war has returned. Once again we have had to issue the call to the battle stations. It is a covert, staggered, cynical, aggressive, and shameless war of oppressors. It is a war with soldiers of fortune and hired assassins who flee from combat with the people's troops, but kill women, children, and elderly people; who destroy crops; who mine our ports; who lie and slander; who buy consciences; who mutilate, kidnap, rape, and kill. It is a cowardly war. The fact that we have not surrendered during the more than 5 years of this struggle can only be understood because of the people's determination, courage, and desire to win.

President-elect Commander Daniel Ortega, the head of the revolutionary government during its last few days, has daily explained our current economic situation, its causes, and its outlook. We have not concealed the acute situation of the working class, the limitations and the inability to satisfy the demands of the rural areas, the obstacles to overcome the misery inherited from submissiveness and exploitation, the distortions of the economy, the need to strengthen the national defense, and the errors that have been committed.

We voted for peace and sovereignty on 4 November. That is why we must respond to the people. That is the mandate we all received regardless of ideology and the color of party banners. This National Assembly is the highest expression of the unity against aggression. It forces us to set aside petty and selfish attitudes and to place the interests of the besieged fatherland and evolution above party interests.

We can have, and we surely will have, serious disagreements. The State Council, the people's council, was a great witness of the strengthening of those political parties and forces that placed themselves in favor of history and of the exclusion of those parties and forced that opposed history. The State Council, the people's council, saw harsh and heated discussions that became laws to benefit the people, leading the way on the path of the institutionalization of the people's power, laying the foundations for the birth of this sovereign assembly where we will play a role of extraordinary importance: the drafting of the constitution of the Republic of Nicaragua. We proudly state that for the first time the Nicaraguan people, through the National Assembly that has constituent functions, will discuss and approve a constitution that is the product of the revolution that destroyed the entire political and legal structure of the system of exploitation that had prevailed in our country since colonial times. It is important to stress the character of this breakthrough.

This National Assembly has the ability to create a new experience in Latin America. It is destined to make an important contribution in constitutional matters. We legislators have the responsibility of designing a political system within the framework of the reality of the revolution. The last Nicaraguan Constitution was the product of the Agüero-Somoza pacts. Although it is true that it was abrogated by the Fundamental Statute, it was not until today that we have the opportunity to discuss, draft, and create a new constitution in view of the provisional character of the Fundamental Statute that fulfilled the role of replacing the old legal order. This National Assembly has the task of preserving the continuity of the new revolutionary order.

This is not an ordinary assembly with just a legislative character. This National Assembly will permanently establish the branches of government, defining their composition, powers, forms of election, and the relationship among them. For the first time in Nicaragua's constitutional history, this will give us stability and greater cohesiveness in the state apparatus, which is the vital nerve and instrument of the revolutionary transformations to benefit the people. In this way, we will break with the disastrous practices of the past, when many constitutions were drafted and approved but were worthless because they were not totally implemented.

This fundamental task means to crystallize the people's power in a great document incorporating the dreams and desires of the heroes and martyrs. It will be a Magna Carta that will interpret the people's desire to abolish exploitation, further develop democracy, further expand freedoms, respect the people's rights, improve culture, generate and justly distribute wealth, and consolidate respect for our sovereignty and our revolution in the world. It will be a Magna Carta that is consistent with the reality of Nicaragua and its revolution and that clearly and precisely establishes the definition of the new revolutionary state, the rights of the political parties, the freedoms of organization and movement, individual and collective rights, the organization of the state, periodic national and municipal elections, the role of the branches of government, and above all, the dignity of the nation in the face of its enemies, and the preservation of the human rights of the Nicaraguans who have unselfishly worked in Nicaragua in the construction of their liberated fatherland.

This will truly be the first Nicaraguan constitution. It is a responsibility and as such it is a task that belongs to all and will be carried out by all. We will fulfill it. We will do so with the same consciousness, tenacity, and firmness with which we have survived as a nation in the face of the U.S. intervention. We will do so with the same spirit with which the army that defended national sovereignty expelled the invaders, with the same strength with which we resisted 40 years of repression, with the same faith that we used to reach victory, with the same devotion we demonstrated to overcome the historic shame of Somozism, with the same energy we used to overthrow the dictatorship, with the same dignity of the national reconstruction, and with the same joy of the revolution. All patriotic Nicaraguans who are proud to be Nicaraguans have something to contribute, to discuss, and to improve.

Alongside this beautiful task we will have to undertake other equally important tasks. They will enable us to develop the exercise of the people's power and to opportunely resolve the crises and the obstacles that dependence and aggression impose on us. We must transform into laws the measures to consolidate the state administration, eliminate the distortions of the economy, and establish the will to survive. We must regulate the imposed limitations so as to guarantee the achievements we have made. To do this it is essential that we be willing to respect the people's initiative. We will legislate on their behalf. Therefore, we have to harmonize the efforts of all the branches of government that are nothing more than the expression of that unquestionable and unique right of initiative.

This National Assembly and its members must understand a very basic fact: They have been elected to unite and not to compete, to harmonize the tasks of the branches of government and not to divide, and to complement their tasks with the other branches of government, especially with the executive branch. In this sense, we cannot disperse power. We cannot break the unyielding decision to advance. On the contrary, expressing a patriotic spirit, coordinating, supporting, strengthening, sharing, and gathering the feelings and achievements of the people, we will increasingly become a bastion of struggle and victory. That is the task. The National Assembly and the Nicaraguans will fulfill it.

NUNEZ DISCUSSES HONDURAN, U.S. POLICIES

PA091551 Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 0000 GMT 9 Jan 85

[Text] Commander of the Revolution Carlos Nunez Tellez said today that counterrevolutionary Steadman Fagoth's expulsion from Honduras does not mean that there has been a change in that country's foreign policy. Nunez Tellez, who is the FSLN's top-ranking deputy to the National Assembly, said today that Fagoth's expulsion from Honduras to the United States does not reveal a change in Honduras' policy toward Nicaragua. Nunez Tellez commented on this matter during a meeting with foreign newsmen. The revolutionary leader said that he was not aware that Steadman Fagoth was holding several Sandinist People's Army officers and enlisted men in Honduran territory, as he had alleged.

Commenting on the recent incident in which counterrevolutionary Miskito leader Brooklyn Rivera was wounded, Commander Nunez Tellez stated that there are counterrevolutionary sectors opposed to the Miskitos' return which want to hinder the negotiations which the government has been conducting with Rivera to achieve that goal. Nunez Tellez added that Brooklyn Rivera had not been wounded in combat, but rather was the victim of an attack.

The revolutionary leader discussed other topics, including the recent talks between the government and the Catholic Church hierarchy. Nunez Tellez stressed that the revolution is prepared to maintain normal relations with the church, without pressure or force, and to continue discussing the differences between the two without imposing conditions.

He accused the parties in the Ramiro Sacasa Guerrero Democratic Coordinating Board [CDN] of inciting youths to refuse to serve in the Patriotic Military Service. On the matter of the recent statement by CDN leader Arturo Cruz, the revolutionary leader said that the statement is part of U.S. policy efforts to promote an overall plan aimed at public opinion and the U.S. Congress for the latter to renew its aid to counterrevolutionaries.

In conclusion, the FSLN leader stated: In the coming months we are going to face an escalation of counterrevolutionary actions and U.S. political and diplomatic pressure to make Nicaragua make mistakes and then use those mistakes to persuade that country's Congress to renew its aid to the counterrevolutionaries.

Views Assembly's Functions

PA092129 Managua Sistema Sandinista Television Network in Spanish 0200 GMT 9 Jan 85

[Text] Commander Carlos Nunez met with members of the local and foreign press this morning at Managua's International Press Club. Commander Nunez discussed several topics with the newsmen and emphasized that the foreign ministers of the Contadora Group will attend the installation of the National Constituent Assembly. With regard to the assembly's functions, he said:

[Begin recording] The FSLN, as the majority force and leader of this revolutionary process, something that is now established legally as well, will make from the moment of the assembly's installation a clear, concrete and definite distinction among the political parties that comprise the National Assembly, those that had legal status but did not take part in the electoral process for objective reasons, and those that did not take part in the electoral process. This means that the policy of equalitarianism is finished. We go on to the concrete practice of defining which are the decisionmaking forces based on the results of the electoral process. What will this mean? We believe that first, it will imply establishing the party's rights. These will be stipulated in the general charter and the regulations of the National Assembly. All the rights, actions, and political presence of the parties that are members of the National Assembly will be established from a legal and institutional standpoint, as well as from the standpoint of their projection through mass media, their unity, their concrete expressions at the National Assembly, their bill proposals, and their opinions on important problems on which the government must consult with the political parties. [end recording]

CRUZ ON MANZANILLO TALKS, CONTINUED OPPOSITION

PAL00345 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1429 GMT 9 Jan 85

[Text] Managua, 9 Jan (ACAN-EFE) -- Opposition leader Arturo Cruz said here that "an agreement between the United States and the Sandinists at the Manzanillo talks will not bear fruit and achieve peace." The leader and former member of the Junta of the Government of National Reconstruction added: "The problem will only be postponed because the Sandinists are in conflict not only with the dissidents but with all Central America." In a statement to ACAN-EFE, Cruz said that the Sandinist Government "must modify its political framework so that it is accepted by all the Nicaraguans and Central America." "The Sandinists must grant complete amnesty, improve their relations with the church, grant political freedom, and follow an intelligent and nationalistic foreign policy," he added. He also said that the new government must assume a "practical" and not a "dogmatic" attitude in handling the economy. "They (the Sandinists) already know what must be done to achieve peace, and they are facing a challenge in this sector," Cruz said.

Cruz arrived in this capital on Sunday and he will return today, Wednesday, to the United States after meeting with leaders of the Ramiro Sacasa Guerrero Democratic Coordinating Board, CDN, Episcopal Conference President Msgr Pablo Antonio Vega, and other personalities. The Nicaraguan opposition "is firmly convinced" that it must continue to struggle through civic action in this country, the dissident leader said. The leader said there is "real dissidence" within and outside the National Assembly, comprised of 96 representatives, which will be installed here today. The opposition leader asserted that he is not the spokesman for any internal or external group which opposes Sandinism. "I act independently," he underscored. He added that his current role will be to continue giving support to all those forces that civically struggle in Nicaragua.

He revealed that he will visit Nicaragua during the next 6 months; in July he will work as an adviser. Cruz was a presidential candidate for the CDN but he was not registered at the Electoral Tribunal.

MACHADO VENTURA RECEIVES VISITING GDR OFFICIAL

FL092004 Havana Television Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 9 Jan 85

[Text] Egon Krenz, deputy chairman of the GDR Council of State, has arrived in our country. He was received by Jose Machado Ventura, Politburo member.

MONTANE MEETS WITH WORLD PEACE COUNCIL CHAIRMAN

FL091610 Havana Television Service in Spanish 1300 GMT 9 Jan 85

[Text] In Havana, Jesus Montane, alternate Politburo member, has held a fraternal meeting with Romesh Chandra, chairman of the World Peace Council, who is attending a conference against the arms race and for peace and development that is being held in Havana.

BILATERAL EXCHANGE PROTOCOL SIGNED WITH FRANCE

FL100203 Havana Television Service in Spanish 0100 GMT 10 Jan 85

[Text] A bilateral exchange protocol for 1985-86 between Cuba and France was signed today in Havana. The protocol calls for scientific-technical cooperation between the two countries and the extension of French aid to the Cuban tropical medicine institute. The aid will include exchanges of personnel and information and technical assistance.

CONGOLESE DELEGATION PAYS OFFICIAL VISIT

FL091254 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 9 Jan 85

[Text] Jean Ganga Zanzou, Politburo member of the Congolese Labor Party, has arrived in Havana heading a delegation on an official visit. Zanzou, who is also president of the People's National Assembly, was received by his Cuban counterpart Flavio Bravo, Central Committee member.

The Congolese delegation was invited to travel to Cuba by the People's Government Nation Assembly [ANPP] to exchange in parliamentary experiences. During their stay in Cuba, the Congolese delegation will meet with party and state leaders and will visit places of economic and social interest.

Jorge Lezcano Meets Delegation

FL100052 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 10 Jan 85

[Text] Jorge Lezcano, member of the party Central Committee and vice president of the ANPP, has held talks with Jean Ganga Zanzou, Politburo member of the Congolese Labor Party and president of the National Assembly of the People's Republic of the Congo. During the meeting, Lezcano stressed the good relations between the peoples of Cuba and the Congo and explained to the Congolese delegation the political, social, and economic value of the recent laws passed by the ANPP.

SERGIO DEL VALLE ATTENDS WHO MEETING IN GENEVA

FL091746 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1700 GMT 9 Jan 85

[Text] Minister of Public Health Sergio del Valle arrived in Geneva today heading a Cuban delegation. The minister is attending the current meeting of the WHO's executive committee, headquartered in Geneva, which began today. According to diplomatic sources, Del Valle, who is representing Cuba, will give a speech tomorrow before the executive committee plenum.

FLAVIO BRAVO ARRIVES IN MANAGUA FOR CEREMONIES

FL092024 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1903 GMT 9 Jan 85

[Text] Flavio Bravo, president of the Cuban ANPP, arrived today in Managua to attend the installation ceremony of the Nicaraguan National Assembly. Bravo went directly from Augusto Cesar Sandino International Airport to the Nicaraguan National Assembly headquarters, where the president of the Supreme Electoral Council swore in the deputies and alternates.

The installation of the National Assembly and the presidential inauguration of Commander Daniel Ortega are a clear expression of the people's will and of the effort and sacrifice of thousands of Nicaraguans, who for decades have struggled for the sovereignty of their fatherland.

Tomorrow, in Managua's Revolution Square, Daniel Ortega and Sergio Ramirez will be inaugurated president and vice president of the Republic, respectively.

'OUR AMERICA' REMEMBERS PANAMANIAN DEMONSTRATION

PA091703 Havana International Service in Spanish 2310 GMT 8 Jan 85

["Our America" commentary]

[Text] This 9 January marks the 21st anniversary of the massacre that U.S. forces carried out against the Panamanian people. During 4 days in January 1964 Marines fired without letup against popular demonstrators who were repudiating an offense committed against their national flag.

Actions began on 9 January when American students hauled down and burned a Panamanian flag that had been raised at a school in Balboa. Their action was a violation of the agreement between the Panamanian and U.S. Governments by which the Panamanian flag must be flown at all government and public buildings in the Canal Zone. When Panamanian students learned of the offense that had been committed against the national symbol they entered the Canal Zone and hauled down all U.S. flags, replacing them with Panamanian ones.

In anger, the people tore down the fences that divided the Canal Zone from Panama City and placed Panamanian flags all along that boundary. U.S. troops, supported by tanks, armored vehicles, heavy machine guns, and aircraft that overflew the cities, fired on the participants in this patriotic action, which immediately became a virtual popular rebellion which Yankee occupation troops suffocated with blood and fire.

The repressive actions resulted in the deaths of 22 Panamanian patriots, while 500 others were wounded and failed to receive proper medical care because U.S. authorities would not allow the medical personnel sent to assist the victims to cross through occupied territory.

Panamanian workers, students, peasants, and the country's popular sectors in general, had never accepted the surrender of part of their territory to the United States. That surrender was carried out behind the backs of these people who faced attacks and heroically waged an unequal battle in which machine guns were countered with sticks and stones.

The struggle of 9 January was preceded by the greatest variety of protests that an oppressed people could stage. The U.S. penetration of Panamanian territory, by which it had unilaterally monopolized the country's principle resource, the canal linking the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans, increased with the establishment of Yankee military bases, the distortion of Panama's culture, language, traditions, currency, and what is more valuable to all the world's peoples, its absolute exercise of sovereignty.

The confrontation of 9 January between patriotism and imperialist power, morals and enemy fire, and its toll of dead patriots, most of whom were young students and workers, is commemorated in Panama as a heroic and unforgettable feat. The killing of Panamanians on 9 January 1964 is part of the tribute that the Latin American peoples have paid in their struggle for total liberation and their constant battle against the common enemy who despises them and plunders their riches. The blood that Panamanians shed on 9 January 1964, like that of thousands of Latin American martyrs who have struggled against imperialism and its puppets, was not shed in vain. The example set by those martyrs is a banner to all the peoples of our America, who today are nearer to their total liberation.

U.S.-SOVIET TALKS CONTINUE IN GENEVA

PA090442 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 8 Jan 85

[Text] The foreign ministers of the Soviet Union and the United States, Andrey Gromyko and George Shultz respectively, concluded in Geneva today the third round of talks aimed at promoting bilateral negotiations on arms limitations.

The dialogue took place at the Soviet Embassy in Geneva, and the leaders of the U.S. and Soviet diplomacy will meet again today, during the afternoon hours, for a fourth and final time.

The meeting between the Soviet and U.S. foreign ministers started on Monday, with two work sessions: one was held in the morning, lasting 3 hours and 20 minutes, and the other was held during the afternoon, lasting 3 and 1/2 hours. The third round of talks held today, Tuesday, lasted 2 hours and 20 minutes. So far, the U.S. and Soviet delegations have maintained absolute secrecy regarding the topics reviewed.

It was officially announced in Washington that U.S. President Ronald Reagan will give a news conference on Wednesday to discuss the Soviet-U.S. talks in Geneva.

DELEGATES TO YOUTH FESTIVAL TO BE CHOSEN IN FEB

FL091451 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1145 GMT 9 Jan 85

[Text] The selection of delegates to the 12th World Youth and Students Festival will begin on the first week of February in the entire country. This process will first be held among grass roots organizations to select the nominees.

The announcement was made in Havana during the second meeting of the national preparatory committee of that important youth event to be held during the International Year of Youth. The meeting was presided over by Politburo member Jose Ramon Machado Ventura.

JAMAICAJLP OFFICIALS DEMAND IMMEDIATE ELECTIONS

FL092104 Bridgetown CANA in English 2017 GMT 9 Jan 85

[Text] Kingston, Jamaica, Jan 9, CANA -- Top officials of Jamaica's opposition People's National Party (PNP) today delivered a letter from their leader to the Prime Minister's Office demanding that a general election be called immediately.

The letter from PNP leader Michael Manley, handed over to the guard at the gate of Jamaica House by party chairman P.J. Patterson and other executive members was the first salvo in an expected sustained PNP push to force Seaga to the polls this year. The PNP contends that the Jamaica Labour Party (JLP) government lacks legitimacy and popular support and was incapable of mobilising the people for an assault on Jamaica's chronic economic problems.

Manley's party, which lost power here in 1980, boycotted a snap general election called by Seaga for December 1983, charging that the prime minister had reneged on a pledge by both major parties that no further election would be held without the implementation of reform to minimise voting fraud. The PNP also said that the voters list was out of date.

The JLP captured all the seats in the House of Representatives, but the PNP has maintained it would seek a new election as soon as the new voters register with the reforms including a voter photo-identification card with thumb-print were ready. Most of the cards have already been delivered and it is expected that the exercise will be completed by month-end. Now that the necessary electoral elements are in place, we demand that you call general elections immediately so that the Jamaican people can democratically express their will and resume their economic and social advancement, Manley said in the letter to Seaga.

Seaga is not obligated to call an election before late 1988 at the earliest, and has on more than one occasion declared his intention to serve the full term. Opinion polls here suggest that his government is well behind the PNP in popularity. Jamaicans have suffered a sharp decline in living standards under his International Monetary Fund (IMF) inspired economic policies. But Seaga has argued that given time his policies will lead to self-sustaining economic growth.

In his letter, Manley said that Jamaica was in a crisis of historic proportions that had paralysed all aspects of economic and social activities and threatened the existence of institutions, values, and traditions which constitute the Jamaican way of life. He said that Seaga had not received the mandate he claimed to be seeking in 1983 or the restoration of investor confidence and could do nothing to inspire or mobilise the people to rescue Jamaica from its perilous position. Only by restoring the moral basis of our democracy and removing the stain of December 1983 can the nation begin to tackle the problems threatening its very survival, the former prime minister declared.

CURRENCY LOSES GROUND AGAINST U.S. DOLLAR

FL092101 Bridgetown CANA in English 1940 GMT 9 Jan 85

[Text] Kingston, Jamaica, Jan 9, CANA -- The Jamaican dollar has lost the one percentage point it gained against the U.S. dollar late last week as it continues to struggle for stability under the weight of unsatisfied demand for hard currency.

With the decline after Tuesday's Central Bank foreign exchange allocation and parity fixing auction, the U.S. dollar was today being bought by commercial banks at J4.91 dollars and sold at five cents higher -- the rates before last week's mild rally.

Demand for hard currency at the auction continues to be strong. With a basket of only U.S. 3 million dollars yesterday there were bids amounting to U.S. 9.9 million dollars, of which U.S. 500,000 dollars were rejected. At last Thursday's auction U.S. 5 million dollars was available against bids for U.S. 10.6 million dollars.

The auctions held on Tuesdays and Thursdays, setting a parity for the day after and up to the day of the next auction.

TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

CHAMBERS ACCEPTS INVITATION TO VISIT BARBADOS

FL091822 Bridgetown CANA in English 1743 GMT 9 Jan 85

[Text] Port-of-Spain, Trinidad, Jan 9, CANA -- The TRINIDAD GUARDIAN reported today that Prime Minister George Chambers had accepted an invitation to visit Barbados issued by Prime Minister Tom Adams. The paper quoted an informed source as saying that Chambers had already replied to Adams' invitation although the date of the visit remains to be fixed.

Admas publicly mentioned the invitation during a state of the nation message on Sunday. He asked Chambers to attend the opening of the Arawak cement plant which is a joint venture between the two countries.

The GUARDIAN said that it could not be ascertained whether Chambers' visit will coincide with the next Caribbean Community (Caricom) heads of government conference which is due to be held in Barbados in July.

Adams also said he wanted the two countries to discuss difficulties in their relations. Since a diplomatic row related to the U.S.-led invasion of Grenada, the two countries have not exchanged resident high commissioners. In addition there are differences over trade and air transportation.

Chambers, the paper reported, is scheduled to visit Jamaica at the invitation of Prime Minister Edward Seaga. This will be to attend a meeting of Caribbean leaders and the Canadian Prime Minister Brian Mulroney, which has been tentatively fixed for next month.

BRAZILJOINT VENEZUELAN DRUG COMMITTEE HOLDS MEETING

PY091149 Sao Paulo Radio Bandeirantes Network in Portuguese 1000 GMT 9 Jan 85

[Text] During the first meeting of the Brazilian-Venezuelan joint committee against drugs, Venezuelan Ambassador to Brazil Ramon Calderon Godoy said that the drug problem in his country is not only handled as a public health matter but as a national security issue as well.

CHILENAVY CHIEF FAVORS EXTENDING STATE OF SIEGE

PY091745 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1630 GMT 9 Jan 85

[By Daniel Ortiz]

[Text] Chilean Navy Commander Jose Toribio Merino has stated that he is in favor of extending the state of siege which expires on 6 February. The Navy commander made this statement during a ceremony in which he decorated Argentine Naval Attache Orlando Bolgnani who is ending his tour in Chile. Answering journalists at the Defense Ministry, Admiral Merino noted that the situation in the country has returned to normal since the enforcement of the state of siege. Therefore, he believes that if the state of siege is lifted at this time of the year, when there are many tourists in the country, we would be granting terrorists an opportunity. Consequently, visiting foreigners would receive a negative impression of our peaceful country. Asked whether the state of siege will be extended, he said: Yes, it will be. As for the curfew, Merino said that this is a regional matter that should be decided by the regional intendants. Moreover, Admiral Merino said that the government junta will approve the peace and friendship treaty with Argentina which had been proposed by the pope and which has been submitted to the junta by President Pinochet.

GUYANAPRIME MINISTER DENOUNCES PRESS REPORTS OF COUP

FL100020 Bridgetown CANA in English 1755 GMT 9 Jan 85

[Text] Georgetown, Guyana, Jan 9, CANA -- Rumours overseas of a coup in Guyana form part of a pattern of events that create a need for vigilance by Guyanese, Prime Minister Desmond Hoyte said today. The recent times have seen bizarre stories in the regional press and elsewhere about alleged developments in Guyana, Hoyte told the annual conference of the local police association. This kind of bizarre and hostile propaganda results from Guyana's boldness in pursuing its own path to development, and refusing to become a satellite of any country, he said. Some people at home and abroad have opposed developments such as the Guyanization of the local police force, the country's move to independence and later republican status, and the granting of free education and free medical attention, the prime minister said. These same people are now involved in destabilization attempts through bizarre and hostile propaganda, he said. Hoyte urged policemen to be vigilant, declaring that enemies of the people would have dealt a blow to national development efforts if they successfully sow confusion. The reports that the country's socialist government had been toppled surfaced last weekend in the Caribbean and New York.